

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST
UPDATED 2014

Purpose of checklist:

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown. You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Instructions for Lead Agencies:

Please adjust the format of this template as needed. Additional information may be necessary to evaluate the existing environment, all interrelated aspects of the proposal and an analysis of adverse impacts. The checklist is considered the first but not necessarily the only source of information needed to make an adequate threshold determination. Once a threshold determination is made, the lead agency is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the checklist and other supporting documents.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

For nonproject proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B plus the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in Part B - Environmental Elements –that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

A. background

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Division St. Bridge Boat Access Project

2. Name of applicant:

Garrett Jones, Landscape Architect, Parks Planning, City of Spokane Parks & Recreation

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

2304 E. Mallon, Spokane, WA 99202; tel. 509-363-5462

4. Date checklist prepared:

June 20, 2014

5. Agency requesting checklist:

City of Spokane Parks & Recreation (Lead Agency)

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

October/November, 2014

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

NO

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

DNS and SEPA Environmental Checklist for Spokane Convention Center Completion Project (16 January, 2013). GeoEngineers Centennial Trail Geotech Engr Study

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

NO

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

City of Spokane Shoreline Conditional Use Permit; City of Spokane Floodplain Development Permit; Partial Transfer of Construction Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (CSWPPP) to this project, from the existing CSWPPP in effect for the Spokane Convention Center Completion Project; approval under Section 404 of the federal Clean Water Act.

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

Project consists of a shoreline stabilization of an eroding bank of the Spokane River directly under the Division Street Bridge, and incorporating a ramp-like sloped pathway allowing access to the river for the purpose of launching small non-powered watercraft, typically canoes and kayaks. The entire project (including all construction) will be located landward (minimum 3 feet, distance varies) of the ordinary high water mark (OHWM). Construction is proposed for October/November of 2014.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

The project is located entirely under the south end of the Division Street Bridge, in Spokane Washington, along the northern edge of the Centennial Trail, landward of the OHWM;. Section 18SE, Township 25N, Range 43E, WM.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

- a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other _____
- b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

Approximately 100% slope on the ± 3-4 foot tall eroding river bank.

- c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.

Soils are generally fine silts in a heavy matrix of crushed rock and angular rock, all fill from past decades.

- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

NO

- e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.]

- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

Any potential erosion will be limited because the construction is occurring in an environment with no potential for precipitation, since it will occur entirely under the drip edge of the Division Street Bridge.

- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

The site will consist of approximately 180 to 200 square feet of impervious surface, of which approximately 50% will be previously impervious surface, i.e., the Centennial trail.

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

The site will be protected with best current practice erosion controls.

2. Air

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

Emissions associated with short term operation of well maintained modern diesel powered construction equipment may be expected.

- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

NO

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

Best practice erosion control, proper maintenance of construction equipment. i.e., back hoe, dump trucks, etc.

3. **Water**

- a. Surface Water: *Spokane River*

- 1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

Spokane River

- 2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

Project will be constructed adjacent to, but entirely outside the OHWM of the Spokane River.

- 3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

Approximately 40 cubic yards of eroding shoreline material (fill placed in previous decades) will be removed, and replaced by approximately 40 cubic yards of clean gravel, boulders, recycled granite curbing, and pavers. No net increase in shoreline volume will result.

- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

NO

- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

The project will occur within the 100 year flood plain of the Spokane River.

- 6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

NO

b. Ground Water:

- 1) Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

NO

- 2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

N/A

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

- 1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

N/A

- 2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

NO

- 3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.

NO

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any:

Finished rock and paver surfaces will eliminate runoff pollution from incidental moisture and pedestrian traffic.

4. Plants]

- a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site: *NONE*

___deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
___evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
___shrubs
___grass
___pasture
___crop or grain
___Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops.
___wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
___water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
___other types of vegetation

- b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

NONE

- c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.

NONE

- d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

N/A

- e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.

The site and immediate shoreline is infested with some noxious weeds including knapweeds, absinthe wormwood, cheatgrass, etc.

5. Animals

- a. List any birds and other animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site. Examples include:

The site occurs in the middle reach of the Spokane River, in an area within the forebay pool of Upper Falls Dam. This reach holds planted rainbow trout, potentially red-band rainbow trout, mountain whitefish, largescale suckers, smallmouth bass and other fish species. Mammals include beaver, Yellow-bellied marmot, raptors including osprey, occasional passing Bald eagles, merlins, Cooper's hawks.

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:
mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other _____

- b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.
- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

River systems are used immigration by many bird species, though the site is entirely constructed: it consists of the river bank underneath an urban bridge, with no vegetation.

- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

N/A

- e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.

Potential exists for commensal rodents including rats and mice. The bridge piers and deck structure does not attract rock doves, though they are present in the urban setting, as are house sparrows and starlings.

6. Energy and natural resources

- a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

N/A

- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

NO

- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

N/A

7. Environmental health

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.

NO

- 1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.

The site was filled with basalt rubble in a sand and gravel matrix with associated granular fill in the late 19th century, and was used for rail lines and associated industrial uses, and other industrial, commercial, and residential uses until the early 1970s. Over time a variety of construction and demolition debris accumulated from these uses in soils on portions of the Convention Center Campus, and the Division St. Bridge at its eastern boundary. Contaminants associated with these types of uses may be present at the site of the proposed shoreline stabilization and boat access under the Division St. Bridge..

The site has been characterized in great detail in the GeoEngineers Phase 1 and Limited Phase 2 Environmental Site Assessment. This document, which may be examined on the Spokane Public Facilities District's website at: <http://www.spokanepfd.org/>, was prepared in 2002 for construction of the Spokane Convention Center Exhibit Hall. Several updates are also available for review at the SPFD's website. These updates were prepared for the Spokane Convention Center Completion Project, currently under construction.

- 2) Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.

A sewer line was relocated to an area directly underneath the Centennial Trail on the proposal's southern edge, under the Division St. Bridge, as a part of current construction of the Convention Center Completion Project. Shoreline stabilization and boat access construction will not impact this sewer line.

- 3) Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.

N/A

- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

The Centennial Trail is designed to accommodate first responder vehicular access.

- 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

N/A

b. Noise

- 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

The site is an intensive urban shoreline, directly under a bridge supporting a major urban arterial, Division Street, which is also designated SR 395 and US Highway 2. As such, traffic noise and other urban soundscapes dominate the site.

- 2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.

Typical noises associated with operation of diesel-powered earthmoving and construction equipment, i.e., front end loader/back hoe, dump trucks, etc.

- 3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

Currently required appropriate muffling on construction equipment, compliance with City Of Spokane ordinances for hours of construction and noise.

8. Land and shoreline use

- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe.

Division St. Bridge, Centennial Trail. Project will enhance public access and use of public facilities.

- b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses as a result of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?

N/A

1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how:

c. Describe any structures on the site.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

Urban Intensive

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.

Spokane River

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

None.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

None.

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

N/A

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

Project will enhance existing public recreational uses.

m. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with nearby agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:

N/A

9. Housing

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

N/A

- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

None.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

N/A

10. Aesthetics

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

Project will be at existing grade, and surfaces will be natural lithic materials and cast pavers.

- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

None.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

N/A

11. Light and glare

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

None.

- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

NO.

- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

Existing lighting under the bridge will be upgraded as part of the Convention Center Completion Project.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

N/A

12. Recreation

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

Pedestrian and cyclist use of the Centennial Trail

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

No. The project will facilitate seasonal use of the Spokane River by canoists, kayakers and recreationists using other non-motorized watercraft.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

N/A

13. Historic and cultural preservation

a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers located on or near the site? If so, specifically describe.

N/A

b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.

None known. See letter from Spokane Tribe at: <http://www.spokanepfd.org/>. This letter is Item 20, under Section F – Permitting Related Documents, for the Spokane Convention Center Completion Project.

c. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.

See response to item b. above.

- d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.

See response to item b. above. Site is entirely late-19th century to mid-20th century fill. Current Division Street Bridge was constructed in 1992.

14. Transportation

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

Site is directly underneath Division Street Bridge, a major urban arterial, which is also designated as SR 395, and US highway 2.

- b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

YES.

- c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate?

N/A

- d. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

The project IS an improvement to existing pedestrian and bicycle facilities (Centennial Trail), and will enhance the developing Spokane river Water Trail.

- e. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

The project will facilitate recreational non-motorized boating on the Spokane River.

- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

Incidental increase in public parking at the Spokane Convention Center.

g. Will the proposal interfere with, affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.

N/A

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

N/A

15. Public services

a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

N/A

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

N/A

16. Utilities

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site:

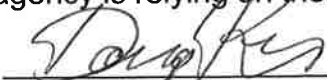
electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other _____

b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

N/A

C. Signature

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: 

Name of signee DOUG PINEO

Position and Agency/Organization PRINCIPAL, PINEO ECOLOGICAL SERVICES LLC

Date Submitted: AUGUST 28, 2014

D. supplemental sheet for nonproject actions

(IT IS NOT NECESSARY to use this sheet for project actions)

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?

Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?

Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?

Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:

6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?

Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.